Sl. No.	State/UT	Rank (1998-99) Q
21.	Delhi	1
22.	Pondicherry	3

Source: Directorate of Economics & Statistics of respective State Governments.
—Central Statistical Organisation

Notes: 1. Q Quick Estimates
2. Lowest rank represents highest value
3. The NSDP figures for the year 1998-99 are not available for some States.

Families Below Poverty Line

2152. SHRI K. M. KHAN: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that after fifty two years of our independence the forty per cent of the people of India are still living below the poverty line;

(b) if so, what are the details of the root causes of such poverty;

(c) whether the Planning Commission have formulated certain reforms to bring the growth and changes on financial and corporate sectors to improve Government and transparency and also to strengthen the social-safety nets; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and the goals achieved in this direction?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ADMINISTRATIVE REFORMS AND PUBLIC GRIEVANCES OF THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF DISINVESTMENT (SHRI ARUN SHOURIE): (a) and (b) The Planning Commission estimates the percentage of persons living below poverty line at National and State level from the large sample survey of consumer expenditure conducted by the National Sample Survey Organisation (NSSO) at an interval of

approximately five years. The last such survey was conducted in 1993-94. As per the latest estimates of percentage of persons living below the poverty line, based on the consumer expenditure survey data of 50th Round of NSSO, 35.97 per cent of the population in the country lived below the poverty line in 1993-94. Data from the latest large sample survey is expected to become available by the end of the year.

(c) and (d) The policy recommendations are contained in the Ninth Five Year Plan document particularly as regards to growth rate and social safety net. Attention is drawn to Chapter 2 of Volume I and Chapter 3 of Volume II of the Ninth Five Year Plan. The issue of financial and corporate governance in the private sector has not been addressed.

Levels of Poverty during Economic Reforms

†2153. SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that poverty has increased in India during the economic reforms from 1990-91 to 1999-2000;

(b) if not, the year-wise details of the figures thereof showing its declining trend from 1990-91 to 1999-2000; and

(c) if so, the action being taken by Government to make the benefits of the economic reforms available to people?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ADMINISTRATIVE REFORMS AND PUBLIC GRIEVANCES OF THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF DISINVESTMENT (SHRI ARUN SHOURIE): (a) to (c) Economic reforms were initiated by the Government of India in July 1991. The Planning Commission estimates poverty at National and State level from the large sample survey data on consumer expenditure collected by the National

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.